

Lineage

Any further worthwhile information is accepted and appreciated.

Sokon Matsumura

Student of Kong Su Kung/Kushanku and Sakugawa

Matsumura taught Okinawan Shuri-te which later became known as Shorin-Ryu. This form was a combination of Sakugawa's tode, and Kong Su Kung's Chinese Boxing.

Yasutsune Itosu

Student of Sokon Matsumura

Itosu-sensei continued Shorin-Ryu as it was originally taught by Matsumura-sensei.

Kanryo Higaonna

He practiced and taught the Naha-te style which became known as Shorei-Ryu (influenced directly by Zhao Long Liu, a Chinese martial art). After his death, Shorei-ryu was continued by Chojun Miyagi, who later formulated it into Goju-Ryu.

Kosanku Matsumora

He practiced and taught Tomari-te.

Other practitioners and styles at/around the time:

Hohan Soka, founder of Matsumuro Seito

Chotoku Kyan, founder of Shobayashi-Ryu

Chosin Chibana, founder of Kobayashi-Ryu

Shosin Nagamine, founder of Matsubayashi-Ryu

Joen Nakazato, founder of Shorinji-Ryu

Kanbun Uechi, founder of Uechi-Ryu

Motubi-Ryu, a family style

Isshin-Ryu, founded by Tatsuo Shimabuku.

Toon-Ryu, founded by Juhatsu Kiyoda.

Shito-Ryu, founded by Kenwa Mabuni.

Okinawan Kempo, a combination of Shuri-te, Naha-te, and Tomari-te, founded by Shigeru Nalamura.

Gichin Funakoshi

Student of Yasutsune Itosu and Sokon Matsumura

The father of modern karate-do, Funakoshi-sensei founded Shotokan Karate-do in the 1920's after popularizing his martial art in Japan. He originally studied under not only Matsumura and Itosu-sensei but a number of other masters, whom Funakoshi talks about in detail in his Karate-do: My Way of Life.

Choki Motobu

Student of Soken Matsumura and Anko Itosu of Shuri, Kosaku Matsumora of Tomari, and possibly Tokumine

His teaching methods primarily consisted of Naihanchi kata for kihon (basics), and kumite. He stressed up-close fighting.

Hironori Ohtsuka

Student of Gichin Funakoshi

Founder of Wado-Ryu Karate-do, Ohtsuka-sensei developed the style as a blend of the basics and kata of Shotokan Karate, the rugged practicality and natural movements of Shindo Yoshin-ryu Jiu Jitsu, and the fluidity and peacefulness of Aikido. The Wado-Ryu symbol represents peace encompassing strength.

In the months leading to his retirement, he decided that his son was to succeed him as grandmaster of Wado-Ryu. However, some of the higher level Wado-Ryu Karateka were not in favor of this decision. Negotiations took place, but no agreement could be reached as to the next grandmaster. As a result, some of the karateka split off to form their own associations.

Hironori Ohtsuka II (Ohtsuka Jiro)

Son & Student of Hironori Ohtsuka

Months before his father's death, he and a group split from Japan Karate Federation-Wadokai. His split is named Wadoryu Renmei. It is regarded as a private group. In 1989 a new split occurred. Suzuki Tatsuo, resident in London, founded International Wadoryu Federation.

Hironori Ohtsuka III

Grandson of Hironori Ohtsuka

Tatsao Suzuki

Senior Student of Hironori Ohtsuka

Founder of International Wadoryu Federation

Suzuki sensei was one of the primary influences in spreading Wado throughout Europe. As a result, Wado is currently the most widely practiced form of karate in Britain.

Lineage of Heiwado:

Kiyohisa Hirano-soke

Student of Hironori Ohtsuka

Founder of Japan International Karate Center

Hirano-soke founded Heiwa-do, his interpretation of Wado-Ryu Karate-do. It also blends in ideas from Shotokan, Shito-Ryu, and Goju-Ryu, as well as Aikido, Iaido, and Judo. The basic strategy and philosophies are classical Wado-Ryu.

Shotokan's scientific approach to body physics helps students grasp instruction more easily. Shito's efficiency & superior stances are also adopted. Also integrated into the movements are Goju-Ryu's dynamic breathing methods.

The name Heiwa-do uses the first kanji (Japanese set of Chinese loanwords) of Hirano (Hira, or Hei) & the 1st character from Wado (Wa). The do in Heiwa-do translates to The Way. Heiwa-do's name was created out of respect for its origins in Wado-Ryu. Heiwa also happens to be the Japanese word for peace; therefore Heiwa-do literally means The Way of Peace.

Shihan Ronald Woodard

Student of Kiyohisa Hirano-soke & current shihan of JIKC

Shihan Woodard is the 1st JIKC instructor in continental US.

Sensei Dale Coker

Student of Shihan Ronald Woodard

Founder of Nippon Kokusai Karate Center

Founder of Japan Karate Institute

Sensei Curtis Boyd

Student of Sensei Dale Coker

Sensei Kevin Marshall

Student of Sensei Dale Coker